

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 ISO-00 NEA-10 DHA-02 IO-13

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07

TRSE-00 /106 W

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R 061635Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5105

INFO AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL FLORENCE

AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL GENOA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY AMSTERDAM

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IT

SUBJ: SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL BUREAU MEETS IN ROME, JUNE 2-3

SUMMARY: THE MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL (SI)

BUREAU IN ROME ON JUNE 2-3 CONCENTRATED ON EUROPE'S ROLE

IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND CHILE, WITH HEAVY

EMPHASIS ON THE LATTER AS THE SOLE TOPIC ON WHICH A

CONSENSUS COULD BE REACHED AMONG THE DELEGATES. AN INITIATIVE BY US OBSERVER CONGRESSMAN DONALD FRASER OF MINNESOTA WHICH CALLED FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC, LIBERAL, AND SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE MET WITH STRONG OPPOSITION LED BY FRENCH SOCIALIST LEADER FRANCOIS MITTERAND. THE BUREAU PLANS TO MEET AGAIN IN THE FALL IN MADRID TO DISCUSS DETENTE, DISARMAMENT, AND EUROCOMMUNISM. END SUMMARY.

1. MANY OF THE LEADING FIGURES IN SOCIALIST AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC CIRCLES WERE PRESENT AT THE JUNE 2-3 MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL BUREAU IN ROME, INCLUDING SI PRESIDENT WILLY BRANDT, FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY CHIEF FRANCOIS MITTERAND, SI SECRETARY AND SWEDISH LEADER BERNT CARLSSON, AND PRESIDENT OF SENEGAL LEOPOLD SENGHOR. THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE CENTERED ON THREE MAIN TOPICS: EUROPE'S ROLE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND CHILE. RESULTS WERE THIN AND THE ONLY AGREEMENTS ACHIEVED WERE ON A FUTURE SCHEDULE FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND CONDEMNATION OF THE CURRENT REGIME IN CHILE.

2. DISCUSSION ON EUROPE'S ROLE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN CENTERED ON A PRESENTATION BY ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY (PSI) SECRETARY AND SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT BETTINO CRAXI, WHO CALLED FOR INCREASED SOCIALIST ACTIVITY IN PROMOTING PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO THE NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES IN THE AREA. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CRAXI ALSO CALLED FOR A BAN ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MILITARY BASES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN AND A THOROUGH "REVIEW" OF THOSE BASES NOW IN EXISTENCE. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE SI SUPPORT THE NEUTRALIZATION OF MALTA AND CALLED UPON EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS TO TAKE THE LEAD IN THE FORMATION OF A VAST EUROPEAN-ARAB-AFRICAN CONSENSUS TO PRODUCE COOPERATION AND PEACE IN THE AREA. COMMENT: THOUGH CRAXI'S REPORT RECEIVED WIDE ATTENTION IN THE ITALIAN PRESS, IT APPARENTLY DID NOT AROUSE A GREAT DEAL OF ENTHUSIASM AMONG THE DELEGATES AND IT DID NOT RESULT IN ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS. END COMMENT.

3. FRENCH SOCIALIST LEADER MITTERAND PRESENTED A BLAND AND GENERALIZED REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN WHICH HE CALLED FOR SOCIALIST LEADERSHIP IN THE FIELD BUT REFRAINED FROM CITING CASES OR ADVOCATING ANY SPECIFIC PROGRAM FOR THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL. MITTERAND LED THE OPPOSITION TO AN INITIATIVE BY

US DEMOCRATIC PARTY OBSERVER, CONGRESSMAN DONALD FRASER OF MINNESOTA, WHO CALLED FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SI AND THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC AND LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS. MITTERAND ARGUED THAT THE LIBERAL/CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC CONCEPT OF "CIVIL RIGHTS" DID NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SOCIALIST IDEAL OF "SOCIAL RIGHTS" AND WAS THEREFORE UNACCEPTABLE FROM THE SOCIALIST POINT OF VIEW. COMMENT: THOUGH MITTERAND WAS BACKED BY THE DUTCH AND ITALIAN PARTIES, IT WAS CLEAR THAT FRASER'S INITIATIVE ENJOYED THE SUPPORT OF BRANDT AND SOME OF THE OTHER DELEGATES. BRANDT UNDERLINED HIS DESIRE FOR CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN THE SI AND OTHER WESTERN-ORIENTED

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INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS BY PAYING A CALL ON MARIANO RUMOR, PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC INTERNATIONAL, FOLLOWING THE SI BUREAU MEETING AND AFTERWARDS MAKING IT CLEAR THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WAS ONE OF THE SUBJECTS THEY DISCUSSED IN DEPTH. AS A COMPROMISE A SMALL, EXPERT WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS SET UP TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR BROAD INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE AREA. END COMMENT.

4. WIDE AGREEMENT WAS OBTAINED ONLY IN CONDEMNATION OF THE CURRENT REGIME IN CHILE. ANSELMO SULE, PRESIDENT OF THE CHILIAN RADICAL PARTY AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SI, CALLED ON THE INTERNATIONAL TO CONCENTRATE ALL OF ITS EFFORTS AGAINST PRESIDENT PINOCHET AND TO PRESS FOR A COMPLETE ECONOMIC EMBARGO OF CHILE. OTHER LEADERS AGREED THAT THE SI SHOULD LOOK UPON THE CHILEAN REGIME AS THE SYMBOL FOR ALL DICTATORSHIP AND AS A POLITICAL AND MORAL POINT OF REFERENCE. BOTH SULE AND CRAXI CALLED UPON THE SI BUREAU TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT CARTER IN AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO TOPPLE PINOCHET, THE LATTER NOTING THAT "THE NEW AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT CARRY THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ITS PREDECESSOR REGARDING CHILE." A "COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH CHILE" WAS FORMED UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF ENGLISH LABORITE ALEX KITSON AND A "HIGH LEVEL" MEETING WAS SCHEDULED BEGINNING AUGUST 29 IN ROTTERDAM IN WHICH "ALL CHILEAN OPPOSITION PARTIES" ARE TO PARTICIPATE. IN ADDITION, A EUROPEAN SOCIALIST DELEGATION HEADED BY MARIO SOARES OF PORTUGAL WILL VISIT LATIN AMERICAN (MEXICO, COSTA RICA, VENEZUELA, AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC) IN OCTOBER TO OBSERVE THE SITUATION FIRST-HAND.

5. AT THE URGING OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR PLANS WERE ALSO MADE FOR A DELEGATION TO VISIT ZAMBIA, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, TANZANIA, BOTSWANA, AND SOUTH AFRICA IN
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SEPTEMBER TO "BRING SUPPORT FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST THE
RECIST REGIMES IN RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA." THE
NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL BRUEAU WILL
TAKE PLACE IN MADRID IN MID-OCTOBER AND WILL CONCENTRATE
ON DETENTE, DISARMAMENT, AND EURO-COMMUNISM. THE LATTER
SUBJECT CAME UP BRIEFLY AT THE ROME MEETING AFTER A
REPORT BY PSI FUNCTIONARY GINO BIANCO, MEANT TO SERVE
AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION ON EURO-COMMUNISM AT THE MADRID
MEETING, WAS CIRCULATED AMONG THE DELEGATES.
(EMBASSY ROME WILL POUCH A COPY OF BIANCO'S REPORT
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE EUR/WEM) AT A JOINT PRESS
CONFERENCE AFTER THE SI BUREAU MEETING BOTH BRANDT
AND CRAXI INDICATED SOME DOUBTS ABOUT "EURO-
COMMUNIST" ADHERENCE TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES
AND ADDED THAT WEST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES WOULD
HAVE TO BACK UP THEIR STATEMENTS WITH ACTIONS AND TAKE
A STAND AGAINST SOVIET MACHINATIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
BEFORE THEY COULD BE ACCEPTED BY THE SI.

COMMENT: THE LACK OF A COMPREHENSIVE FINAL DOCUMENT
ATTESTS TO THE FACT THAT NO GREAT CONSENSUS WAS ACHIEVED
IN ROME. BRANDT WAS CLEARLY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE
MEAGER RESULTS OF THE MEETING AND THE CONTINUED ATTEMPS
OF HIS COLLEAGUES TO MANIPULATE THE PROCEEDINGS TO SUIT
THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL PURPOSES OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL
NATIONAL PARTIES. HIS HOPES OF FORGING A PAN-EUROPEAN
SOCIALIST PLATFORM FOR THE ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT IN 1978 REMAIN FAR FROM REALIZATION. END COMMENT. GARDNER

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